

it to be believed that man cannot be governed by but a rod of iron. That this Commonwealth does therefore call on its co-States for an expression of their sentiments on the acts concerning aliens, and for the punishment of certain crimes herein before specified, plainly declaring whether these acts are or are not authorized by the Federal compact. And it doubts not that their sense will be *so* announced as to prove their attachment unaltered to limited government, whether general or particular. And that the rights and liberties of their co-States will be exposed to no dangers by remaining embarked in a. common bottom with their own. That they will concur with this Commonwealth in considering' the said acts as so palpably against the Constitution as to amount to an undisguised declaration that that compact is not meant to be the measure of the powers of the general government, but that it will proceed in the exercise over these States, of all powers whatsoever: that they will view this as seizing the rights of the States, and consolidating them in the hands of the general government, with a power assumed to' bind the States (not merely as the cases made federal, *casus foederalis*), but in all cases whatsoever, by laws made, not with their consent, but by others against their consent: that this would be to' surrender the form of government we have chosen, and live under one deriving its powers from its own will, and not from our authority; and that the co-States, recurring to^ their natural right in cases not made federal, will concur in declaring these acts void, and of nO' force, and will each take measures of its own for providing that neither these acts, nor any other of the general government not plainly and intentionally authorized by the Constitution, shall be exercised within their respective territories.

9. Resolved, That the said committee be authorized to communicate by writing or personal conferences, at any times or places whatever, with any person or persons who may be appointed by any one or more co-States to correspond or .confer "with them; and that they lay their proceedings before the next session of Assembly.